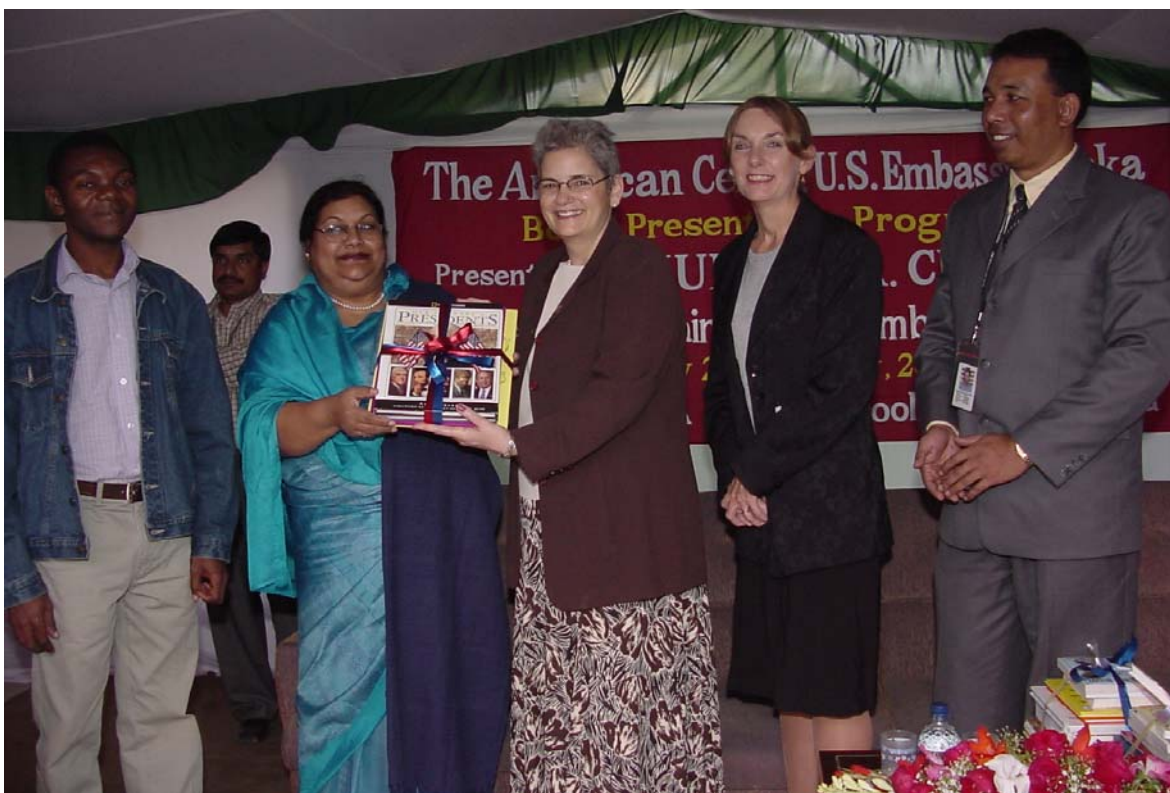


U.S. EMBASSY CHARGE D'AFFAIRES PRESENTS BOOKS TO ONNESHA SCHOOL



DHAKA, JANUARY 31 – U.S. Embassy Charge d’Affaires Judith A. Chammas answered questions from students and presented a collection of children’s books to Onnesha International School in Banani on Sunday.

The books were presented as a gesture of thanks to Onnesha for their participation in the September 19 filming of a “Sisimpur” episode at the Archer K. Blood American Center Library. During that event, Onnesha students were surprised by the appearance of both CDA Chammas and cricket superstar Md. Ashraful, both of whom spoke about the importance of reading. Sisimpur, a USAID-funded children’s educational program, is often screened at the American Center.

Students asked CDA Chammas questions about the American educational system, her background and family, and American culture. CDA Chammas encouraged students to visit the Library and Student Advising Center with their parents, saying, “For us at the American Embassy, it’s very important that children enjoy learning. That’s why we help with the ‘Sisimpur’ program, which is based on a very popular American children’s television show.”

Ms. Nasreen Monem Khan, Onnesha’s principal, thanked the U.S. Chargé d’ Affairs and the American Center staff for visiting the school and for the book donation to Onnesha’s library. New books included a children’s encyclopedia, picture books, American classic literature and dictionaries.

The Archer K. Blood American Center Library is open for patrons to borrow books, DVDs and CD-ROMs, as well as for Internet browsing and use of audiovisual materials. It has a good general-interest collection, but focuses on American fiction, English as a Second Language, computers and business/management. Hours are Sunday and Wednesday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Monday and Tuesday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 881-3441 for further information.

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Note: *A Bangla translation of this article is also available from the American Center. If you are interested in the translation, please call the American Center Press Section (Tel: 8813440-4, Fax: 9881677; e-mail: DhakaPA@state.gov; Website: [http:// dhaka.usembassy.gov](http://dhaka.usembassy.gov) (New)*